



Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve

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Media Release



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Chief of Police

Date: August 20, 2011

Contact: Sgt. Matt Ronstadt

EMPLOYEE ARREST

On August 20, 2011 at approximately 3:00 a.m., two Tucson Police Department officers were on patrol when they encountered a two-vehicle collision that had apparently just occurred at the intersection of South Freeway and West Silverlake Road. Upon contacting the drivers, the officers noted that one of them was **off-duty Tucson Police Department Officer Stacey Morrison-Wheeler**.

During the ensuing collision investigation, it was determined that **35-year old Morrison-Wheeler** was the at-fault driver. Roadway evidence and witness statements indicated that Morrison-Wheeler was driving southbound on South Frontage, approaching West Silverlake Road in a 2005 Ford Escape. Morrison-Wheeler struck the rear of a 1972 Chevrolet Malibu, which was stopped on southbound South Frontage for a red light at West Silverlake Road.

The Malibu was occupied by the male driver and a male passenger, both adults. Both were transported to a local hospital with non-evident possible injuries. Morrison-Wheeler's vehicle was occupied by a male and a female passenger, both adults. The female was transported to a local hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

During the investigation, Morrison-Wheeler exhibited signs and symptoms consistent with possible impairment. Tucson Police Department Officers assigned to Solo Motors and the Impaired Driving Enforcement Squad conducted a DUI investigation at the scene. As a result of the investigation, Morrison-Wheeler has been arrested in connection with this investigation.

Morrison-Wheeler has been charged with **three counts of Endangerment, one count of Criminal Damage, and one count of Aggravated Assault, all felonies**, and she has been booked into the Pima County Jail.

The Tucson Police Department treats all allegations of criminal acts or misconduct by employees as serious, including criminal acts or misconduct occurring while employees are off-duty. Morrison-Wheeler's actions are not representative of the nearly 1400 men and women of the Tucson Police Department who serve their community with integrity, and put their lives on the line each day.

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.